Paris-Oxford Partnership (POP)

Second Call for Applications – October 2021

The Humanities Division at the University of Oxford (referred to as "Oxford") and the Université de Paris, in partnership with the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), are delighted to announce a call for applications for research collaboration within the Oxford-Université de Paris-CNRS Humanities Research Partnership, referred to as the Paris-Oxford-Partnership (POP), as defined by the MoU between the three institutions signed on May 6th 2020.

Framework

The Paris-Oxford-Partnership is motivated by the exceptional strength, range, and quality of Humanities research (broadly conceived) in the partner institutions; the existence of prior research links that will be significantly enhanced by more sustained strategic support; the potential for significant interdisciplinary activity resulting in the identification of innovative new paradigms or research questions; a rich legacy of performance, creative research, and scholarly artistic activity; the potential for the creation of substantial new outputs and research findings; and the ability to apply for collaborative research grants and awards (for instance, from the European Research Council).

This scheme aims at facilitating exchanges between the partner institutions by offering Visiting Fellowships to academics from Oxford and Paris. There is also a workshop opportunity to support early career researchers as part of the partnership.

For these two opportunities, proposals are welcome that address topics of strategic interdisciplinary significance. Indicative themes may include but are not limited to: borders; humanities and the brain; ecologies, the climate crisis and environmental humanities; government, governance and big data; digital humanities; health, well-being and the medical humanities; decolonisation and post-colonialism; curation and performance.

To enable this, applications from researchers are welcome for the second round of the scheme, under two opportunities that accommodate academics at different career levels:

1. **Visiting Fellowships for academics**, for stays of 1-2 months (4-8 weeks) to undertake advanced research in collaboration with colleagues at the University of Oxford. Fellows are defined as permanent academic personnel and include researchers who exercise their functions in Université de Paris or Alliance Sorbonne Paris Cité research units (Unités de Recherche, dont Unités Mixtes de Recherche), including academics from CNRS and other research institutions.

2. **Early Career projects** - A short single joint project or event by Doctoral Students/Early-Career researchers (ECR) that brings together Oxford and Paris researchers to explore topics of mutual interest, culminating in a meeting in Paris (only possible in the second semester of 2021-2022 or in the 2022-2023 academic year). ECRs must hold a position in the aforementioned research units. They must be within eight (8) years of the date of receiving their doctoral degree.

Application Process

Visiting Fellowships

The application for Visiting Fellowships must include

- a brief description of the project and planned activities, where (if possible) the applicant identifies research partner(s) in either institution; a rationale for the collaboration with Oxford/Paris colleagues; an indication of the intended outcomes; a comment on the legacy or sustainability of the collaboration (maximum 2 pages);
- a CV;
- a letter or form of approval by the head of department or research institute/units (unité de recherche).

Early-Career Projects

For doctoral student/early career researcher-led applications

- a short statement of support from a supervisor or senior mentor;
- a 1-2 page description of the project. These must be joint applications for a single project and/or event submitted by a single lead-applicant from the host institution in Paris in which the event will take place. *One similar ECR event has already been selected to take place in Oxford.*

To apply:

Université de Paris and ASPC academics are invited to apply for the Oxford Visiting Fellowships. Completed applications should be sent to <international.drive@u-paris.fr>, Cc Thomas Touzet (thomas.touzet@u-paris.fr) and to inshs.international@cnrs.fr, Cc Chantal Khan-Malek (chantal.khan-malek@cnrs-dir.fr).

Nota: Université de Paris and ASPC academics may benefit from a delegation from the CNRS for the time of their stay in Oxford in order to ensure the smooth running of their current classes.

Applicants to the ECR stream should visit the **TORCH Funding Opportunities** page to access the application form.

Criteria and Selection Process

Evaluation will be undertaken by parallel committees of senior academics based at each institution. Assessment of both categories will be based on a commonly agreed set of criteria:

1. Quality and originality of research;
2. Extension of existing research communities through interdisciplinary innovation;
3. Deliverability and value for money.

Provisional timeline

Call announced on the Université de Paris and Oxford University websites	8 October 2021
Closing date for submission of proposals	18 November 2021 (12am Paris time)
Evaluation and selection	JOC: 22 – 24 November 2021
Notification of results / Invitation letters	2nd December 2021
Period of stay	Mid-January – Mid-July 2022

Funding, Terms and Conditions

Funding for fellowships will be divided in 2 months' worth of research grants on Université de Paris side and funding for 2 researchers for up to 2 months each on Oxford side.

Terms and conditions of stays and events in Oxford:

Visiting Fellowships
Paris researchers will be invited for research stays in Oxford of between 4 - 8 weeks.
- Travel (up to £500) and accommodation in Oxford (to be arranged with the help of the TORCH International Officer);
- Stipend of £1,000 per calendar month for the duration of stay;
- Event support and facilitation, as well as communications;
- Affiliation with one of the University of Oxford's colleges;
- Association with relevant Faculties and/or Departments at the University of Oxford;
- Affiliation with the Maison Française d'Oxford[1], if appropriate;
- Access to University of Oxford Libraries resources and other facilities, as appropriate;
- Office space, if available;
- Recording and photographing of some events.

Early Career Projects
- Funding (up to £1,500 per project) to facilitate an event (seminar or workshop) around the subject areas outlined in the first page of this document. Event support in-kind from the TORCH Team.

---

[1] The Maison Française d'Oxford is part of the network of French Overseas Research Institutes. It is a joint venture between the CNRS and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It is also formally associated with the University of Oxford under the collaboration agreement signed by the CNRS, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the University of Oxford in March 2019.

Administrative support

Awards for visiting fellows will fund a 1-2 month stay in Oxford as an academic visitor, with access granted to archives, libraries or other resources negotiated by Oxford. Depending on their research topics, visiting fellows could be granted the status of visiting researcher at the Maison Française d'Oxford.

For student/ECR-led events, the funds will support the costs of one or more thematically linked events (for eligible costs, including travel, please see the further details below).

Université de Paris or ASPC academics going to Oxford who are French and EU citizens will be eligible for a visa waiver if they intend to stay in the United Kingdom for a period of less than 3 months. Please note that Université de Paris or ASPC academics who are not French or EU citizens may need to apply for a visa.

Up-to-date information on travelling to the United Kingdom is available [here](#). Those travelling to the UK will also need to get their own insurance.

Facilities

Incoming international fellows benefit from the support of the TORCH Operations Manager, Mrs Sarah Clay (sarah.clay@humanities.ox.ac.uk), who can assist guests with a range of logistical questions having to do with University services, accommodation, and event planning.

Visiting academics should indicate, at the point of application, the kind of activities that they would like to carry out while at Oxford. The TORCH team will work with them to organize events including graduate seminars, symposia, and lectures. In the past, TORCH visiting academics have been encouraged to take part in at least one event that can be of interest to a broader audience. TORCH will advertise these events widely within Oxford and on social media. The TORCH team can also help visitors assess the impact and reach of their events by preparing audience surveys.

TORCH can also offer academics a range of options for hybrid and/or fully digital events, including high-profile "in conversation," interviews, or discussions with researchers and/or practitioners, which can be livestreamed on the TORCH YouTube channel (5.8K subscribers to date); podcasts that can be transmitted through TORCH's online platforms; and webinar series that can host up to 100 attendees at a time. For more information about TORCH's digital events, please visit our website: https://www.torch.ox.ac.uk.

Terms and conditions of stays and events in Paris

Student/ECR-led projects or events

In Paris, doctoral students and early-career researchers can benefit from financial support up to €2,500 for one project or event in the academic year. This sum may be used for the transport and accommodation of speakers, catering and communication (translation, printing of posters, etc.).

Doctoral students and ECRs coming into Oxford will, likewise, receive reimbursement of travel costs (standard class); accommodation costs for speakers; and logistical assistance for events.

At both institutions, they will also receive support from a senior academic with relevant research expertise.

Governance

The Université de Paris Steering Committee:

- 4 representatives for Université de Paris:
  - Vice-présidente du Conseil d'Administration : Clarisse Berthezène
  - Vice-président Recherche : Édouard Kaminski
  - Faculté Sociétés & Humanités : Claire Saillard, Vice-doyenne–Relations Internationales
  - Martine Beugnet, Professeur, Visual Studies, LARCA
- 4 representatives for CNRS:
  - Director of MFO: Pascal Marty
  - INSHS Deputy director for International Affairs: Sylvie Demurger
  - INSHS Deputy director for interdisciplinarity: Alexandre Gefen
  - DERCI (European Research and International Cooperation Department) Deputy director: Chantal Khan-Malek
- 1 representative for Institut d'Etudes Avancées:
  - Simon Luck, Scientific director

The University of Oxford Steering Committee:

- Daniel Grimley (Associate Head, Humanities Division; Professor of Music)
- Wes Williams (TORCH Director; Professor of French)
- María del Pilar Blanco (TORCH Academic Champion; Associate Professor in Spanish American Literature)
- Pascal Marty (Director, Maison Française d'Oxford)

The term of office of the Steering Committee members is the same as the duration of the Agreement. Should the term of a member be interrupted, the said member shall be replaced according to each Party's internal procedure.

The Steering Committee meets at least once a year and as often as the interests of the POP need it, at the initiative of the Steering Committee members. Should it be impossible to physically hold a Steering Committee meeting, decisions of the Steering Committee may be adopted by teleconferencing or by written or electronic consultation.

The decisions of the Steering Committee are adopted by a two-third majority vote, subject to each individual member being present or represented.

The Joint Oversight Commitee (JOC):
- 3 representatives for Oxford
- 3 to 4 representatives for Université de Paris and CNRS
    Clarisse Berthezène or representative
    Claire Saillard or Martine Beugnet
    Sylvie Demurger or representative
- 1 representative for the Institut des Études Avancées (IEA)